

The City of Maricopa Economic Development Department is dedicated to helping entrepreneurs and small businesses locate the assistance they need to be successful in the community. We recognize that the majority of new jobs across the country are created by small businesses, often ones already present in the local community.

In working with small business and entrepreneurs, the role of the City of Maricopa's economic development department is to act as an advocate for the business community, a source of assistance in understanding City processes and policies, and an information clearinghouse of resources and contacts specializing in various areas of business growth. The department operates under a "no wrong door" policy, which means that it is our mission to put those needing assistance in touch with the right resources, no matter which "door" they enter from.

Contact the City's Economic Development Department for more information or to request an interview.

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### **Entrepreneur Training Program**

Made possible by a [United States Department of Agriculture grant with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009](#), the City of Maricopa is pleased to offer local entrepreneurs and businesses with the opportunity to receive targeted training and assistance to grow their local enterprises. The program will include fall and spring sessions and ongoing counseling. Visit the program page for more details.

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### **Maricopa Chamber of Commerce**

The Maricopa Chamber of Commerce was established in 1990 to help the local business community to network, create professional development and advertising opportunities, and to assist entrepreneurs in establishing their businesses. For information on how the Chamber can help you, visit [maricopachamber.com](http://maricopachamber.com).

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### Central Arizona College Small Business Development Center

Central Arizona College is Pinal County's community college. It offers over 50 university transfer programs and more than 90 degrees and certificates in various programs. In addition to academic and athletic excellence, Central Arizona College also operates a no-cost Small Business Development Center to help startup businesses with everything from creating a business plan to recruiting and training workers.

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### Business Retention & Expansion Program

Maricopa's Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) program, established in October 2006, is aimed at keeping existing businesses in the area and assisting in their growth. The program consists of conducting one-on-one interviews with business owners, following up with any information or special assistance needed. Assistance can range from providing additional information about networking opportunities in the community to working to recruit requested ancillary business services to the area. Maricopa is a member of the statewide ["Building Bridges to Businesses"](#)

program sponsored by Arizona Public Service. Membership in this program has established an ongoing business retention and expansion strategy aimed at helping to develop and grow local business in the Maricopa community. In continued partnership with the Maricopa Chamber of Commerce, the City is dedicated to ongoing communication efforts with all members of the local business community, the foundation of Maricopa's economy.

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The following list of online resources has been compiled for the convenience of small businesses and entrepreneurs in planning, developing, funding, and marketing their companies (the City of Maricopa does not advocate for and cannot guarantee the accuracy of data on 3rd party sites):

#### Small Business Organizations and Networking Resources in Maricopa

- [Arizona SCORE, small business counselors](#)
- [Arizona Small Business Association](#)
- [Arizona State University Spirit of Enterprise Center](#)
- [Central Arizona College Small Business Development Center](#)
- [Maricopa Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Maricopa Community Colleges Small Business Development Center](#)

#### Business Plan Resources and Outlines

- [Arizona Department of Commerce Small Business Services](#)
- [Arizona Small Business Association Business Checklist Guide](#)
- [Central Arizona College SBDC Business Planning Guide](#)
- [MIT Enterprise Forum for Business Planning](#)
- [U.S. Small Business Administration Small Business Planner](#)

### Research Data for Use in Business Planning

- [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#)
- [Competitor Research and Market Analysis Data](#)
- [County Business Patterns from US Census Bureau](#)
- [Hoovers Data – free info](#)
- [North American Industry Classification System Association](#)
- [U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

### Development Resources

- [Arizona Corporation Commission](#)
- [Entrepreneur Resources](#)
- [IRS Tax Information for Businesses](#)
- [Online Community of Startup Businesses](#)
- [Hazardous Waste Handling for Small Businesses](#)

### Funding Sources

- [Arizona Community and Business Finance Guide](#)
- [Arizona Venture Capital and Angel Investment Directory](#)
- [Arizona Angel Investors Network](#)
- [Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.](#)
- [Community Development Financial Institution Certified Lenders](#)
- [Desert Angels Investment Group](#)
- [Federal Government Grant Online Search](#)
- [National Venture Capital Association](#)
- [National Association of Small Business Investment Companies](#)
- [PPEP Microbusiness and Housing Development Corporation](#)

### Becoming a Government Vendor

- [How to Market and Sell to the Federal, State and Local Government](#)
- [SPIRIT State Procurement Online](#)
- [City of Maricopa Bid Opportunities](#)

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